

DECLARATION

OF THE
LORDS AND COMMONS

IN
PARLIAMENT:

With the Additionall Reasons,
last presented to His MAJESTIE.

Sabbath 12 Martii. 1641.

Ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament
assembled, That the Declaration, with the Addi-
tionall Reasons last presented to His Majesty, shall
be forthwith Printed and published.

Jo. Browne, Cleric. Parl.

H. Elsynge, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

Whereunto is annexed, His MAJESTIES Speech
to the Committee, the 9 of March, 1641.
when they presented the Declaration of both
Houses of Parliament at *New-Market*.

London; Printed for Joseph Manscotti, 1641.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS
JUNE 1, 1916

The Declaration.

May it please your Majesty,

Although the Expressions in your Majesties Message of the second of this instant *March*, doe give just cause of sorrow to us your faithfull Subjects, the Lords and Commons in Parliament, yet it is not without some mixture of confidence and hope, considering they proceeded from the mis-apprehension of our Actions and Intentions, which having no ground of Truth or Realty, may by your Majesties Justice and Wildom be removed when your Majesty shall be fully informed, that those fears and jealousies of ours, which your Majesty thinks to be causelesse, and without any just ground, doe necessarily and clearly arise from those dangers and distempers, into which the mischievous and evil Counsellors about You have brought this Kingdom; And that those other fears and jealousies, by which your favour, your Royall Presence, and confidence, have been withdrawn from your Parliament, have no foundation or substance in any action, intention, or miscarriage of ours, but are meerly grounded upon the falshood and malice of those, who, for the supporting and fomenting their own wicked designs, against the Religion and Peace of the Kingdom, do seek to deprive your Majesty of the Strength and Affection of your People, them of your Grace and Protection, and thereby to subvert both your Royall Person, and the whole Kingdom to ruine and destruction.

To satisfie your Majesties judgement and Conscience in both these points, we desire to make a clear and free Declaration of the causes of our fears and jealousies, which we offer to your Majesty, in these particulars:

1. That the design of altering Religion in this, and in your other Kingdoms, hath been potently carried on by those in greatest Authority about you for divers yeers together, the Queens Agent at *Rome*, and the Popes Agent or Nuncio here, are not onely evidences of this design, but have been great Actors in it.

2. That the War with *Scotland* was procured to make way for this intent, and chiefly invited and fomented by the Papists, and others popishly affected, whereof we have many evidences, especially their free and generall contribution to it.

3. That the Rebellion in *Ireland* was framed and contrived here in *England*, & that the *English* Papists should have risen about the same time, we have severall testimonies, and advertisements from *Ireland*; and that it is a common speech amongst the Rebels, which with concur other Evidences and observations of the suspitions, meetings, and consultations, the tumultuary and seditious carriage of those of that Religion

Religion in divers parts of this Kingdom, about the time of the breaking out of the *Irish* Rebellion; The deposition of *O Connolly*, the Information of *Mr Cole* Minister, the Letter of *Trestam Whitcombe*, the deposition of *Thomas Crum*, and many others which we may produce, do all agree in this: The publike Declaration of the Lords, Gentlemen, and others of the Pale, that they would joyn with the Rebels, whom they call the *Irish* Army, or any other, to recover unto his Majestie His Royall Pretogative, wrested from him by the Puritan faction in the House of Parliament in *England*, & to maintain the same against all others; as also to maintain Episcopall Jurisdiction, and the lawfulness thereof; these two being the Quarrels, upon which His Majesties late Army in the North should have been incensed against us.

The great cause we have to doubt that that late design stiled, *The Queens pious intention*, was for the alteration of Religion in this Kingdom; for successe whereof, the Popes Nuncio, the Count *Refetti* injoynd Fasting & Praying to be observed every week by the *English* Papists, which appeared to us by one of the Original Letters, directed by him to a Priest in *Lancashire*.

The boldnesse of the *Irish* Rebels, in affirming they doe nothing, but by Authority from the King; That they call themselves the Queens Army: That the prey of booty which they take from the *English*, they mark with the Queens Mark: That their purpose was to come to *England*, after they had done in *Ireland*, and sundry other things of this kinde, proved by *O Connolly*, and divers others, especially in the fore-mentioned Letter from *Trestam Whitcombe*, the Major of *Kinsale* to his Brother *Benjamin Whitcombe*, wherein there is this passage, That many other strange speeches they utter, about Religion, and our Court of *England*, which he dares not commit to paper.

The manifold attempts to provoke Your Majesties late Army, and the Army of the *Scots*, and to raise a faction in the Citty of *London*, and other parts of the Kingdom: That those who have been Actors in those businesses, have had their dependance, their countenance, & encouragement from the Court; Witnesse the Treason whereof Master *Jermyn* and others stand accused, who was transported beyond Sea by Warrant, under Your Majesties Hand, after Your Majesty had given Assurance to Your Parliament, that Your Majesty had laid a strict command upon all your Servants, that none of them should depart from Court: And that dangerous Petition, delivered to Caprain *Legg* by your Majesties own Hand, accompanied with a Direction, Signed with *C. R.*

The false and scandalous accusation against the Lord *Kymbolton*, and the five Members of the House of Commons, tendered to the Parliament by your Majesties own command, endeavoured to be justified by your own presence and perswasion, & to be put in execution

detention of their persons by your Majesties demand of them in the House of Commons in so terrible and violent a manner, as far exceeded all former breaches of Priviledges of Parliament, acted by your Majesty upon any of your Predecessors. And whatsoever your intentions were, divers bloody and desperate persons, which attended your Majesty, discovered their affections and resolutions to have massacred and destroyed the members of that House, if the absence of those persons accused, had not, by Gods providence, stopp the giving of that word which they expected, for the setting them upon that barbarous and bloody act: The lifting of so many Officers, Soldiers, & others, putting them into pay, and under command of Colonells, feasting and carressing them in an usuall manner, at *White-hall*, thereby maintaining them in the violent assaults, and other injuries which they offered to divers of your Subjects, coming that way in a lawfull & peaceable manner: the carrying them out of Towne; after which, they were told by the Lord *Digby*, That the King removed on purpose, that they might not be trampled in the dust: And keeping them so long in pay, endeavouring to ingage the Gentlemen of the Lines of Court, in the same course: The plotting and designing of a perpetuall Guard about your Majesty: The labelling to induce into your Majesties Subjects an evill opinion of the Parliament, thorow the whole Kingdom, and other Symptomes of a disposition of raising Arms, and dividing your people by a civill Warre; in which combustion, *Ireland* must needs be lost, and this Kingdom miserably wasted and consumed, if not wholly ruined and destroyed.

That after a Vote had passed in the House of Commons, declaring, That the Lord *Digby* had appeared in a warlike manner at *Kingston* upon *Thames*, to the terror & fright of your Majesties good Subjects, and disturbance of the publike peace of the Kingdom; and that therefore the Lords should be moved to require his attendance, he should, nevertheless, be of that credit with your Majesty, as to be sent away by your own Warrant to Sir *John Pennington*, to land him beyond the Sea; from whence he vented his own trayterous conceptions, That your Majesty should declare your self, and retire to a place of strength in this kingdom, as if your Majesty could not be safe among your people: And withall took that transcendent boldnesse to write to the Queen, offering to entertain correspondence with her Majesty by Cyphers, intimating some service which he might do in those parts; for which, he desired your Majesties instructions, whereby in probability, he intended the procuring of some forraign force to strengthen your Majesty, in that condition into which he would have brought you: Which false and malicious counsell and advice, we have great cause to doubt, made too deep an impression in your Majesty, considering the course you are pleased to take, of attending your

John Digby

your Parliament, and carrying the Prince with you, which seems to expresse a purpose in your Majesty, to keep your self in a readinesse for the acting of it.

The manifold Advertisements which we have had from *Rome, Venice, Paris*, and other parts, that they still expect that your Majestie has some great designe in hand, for the altring of Religion, the breaking the neck of your *Parliament*: That you will yet find means to compass that designe, that the Popes *Nuncio* hath solicited the Kings of *France* and *Spain* to lend your Majestie foure thousand men apeece to help to maintain your Royaltie against the *Parliament*: And this forraign force as it is the most pernicious and malignant designe of all the rest, so we hope it is, and shall alwaies be, farthest from your Majesties thoughts, because no man can beleieve you will give up your people & Kingdom to be spoiled by strangers, if you did not likewise intend to change both your own profession in Religion, and the publique profession of the Kingdom, that so you might still be more assured of those forraign States of the Popish Religion, for your future support and defence.

These are some of the grounds of our fears and jealousies which made us so earnestly to implore your royall Authoritie & protection for our defence and securitie, in all the wayes of humilitie and submission, which being denied by your Majestie, seduced by evill Counsell, we do with sorrow for the great and inavoidable miserie and danger, which thereby is like to fall upon your own Person, and your Kingdoms, apply our selves to the use of that power for the securitie and defence of both, which by the fundamentall Laws and Constitutions of this Kingdom resides in us, yet still resolving to keep our selves within the bounds of faithfulnessse and alleageance to your sacred Person and your Crown, so as to the second sort of jealousies and fears of us, exprest by your Majestie, we shall give a shorter, but as true, and as faithfull an Answer.

Whereas Your Majesty is pleased to say, That for your residence neer the *Parliament*, you wish it might be so safe, and Honorable, that You had no cause to absent your self from *Whitehall*; This we take as the greatest breach of Priviledge of *Parliament* that can be offered; As the heaviest miserie to your self; and imputation upon us that can be imagined; And the most mischievous effect of evill Councels; it roots up the strongest foundation of the safety and honour which your Crown affords; It seems as much as may be, to cast upon the *Parliament*, such a charge, as is inconsistent with the nature of that great Councell, being the Body whereof your Majesty is the Head; it strikes at the very being, both of King, and *Parliament*; depriving your Majesty in your own apprehension of their fidelitie, and them of your Protection, which are the mutual bands and supports of Government, and Subjection.

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We have according to your Majesties desire, laid our hands upon our hearts, we have askt our selves in the strictest examination of our Consciences; we have searcht our affections, our thoughts, considered our Actions, and we find none that can give your Majestie any just occasion to absent your self from *Whitehall*, and the *Parliament*; but that you may with more honour and safety, continue there then in any other place.

Your Majesty layes a generall tax upon us; If you will be graciously pleased to let us know the particulars, we shall give a clear and satisfactory Answer: But what hope can we have of ever giving your Majesty satisfaction, when those particulars which you have been made beleieve were true, yet being produced and made known to us, appeared to be false; and your Majestie notwithstanding, will neither punish, nor produce the Authors, but go on to contract new jealousies and fears, upon generall and uncertain grounds, affording us no means or possibility of particular Answer, to the cleering of our selves: For proof whereof, we beseech your Majesty to consider these Instances.

The Speeches alledged to be spoken in a meeting of divers Members of both Houses at *Kensington*, concerning a purpose of restraining the Queen and Prince, which after it was denied, and disavowed, yet your Majesty refused to name the Authors, though humbly desired by both Houses.

The report of Articles framed against the Queens Majesty, given out by some of neer relation to the Court; but when it was publicly, and constantly disclaimed, the credit seemed to be withdrawn from it; but the Authors being kept safe, will alwayes be ready for exploits of the same kind, wherewith your Majesty, and the Queen, will be often troubled, if this course be taken to cherish and secure them in such wicked and malicious slanders.

The heavy charge and accusation of the Lord *Kimbolson*, and the five Members of the House of *Commons*, who refused no triall or examination, which might stand with the Priviledge of *Parliament*; yet no Authors, no witnesses produced, against whom they may have reparation for the great injury and infamy cast upon them; notwithstanding three severall Petitions of both Houses, and the authoritie of two Acts of *Parliament*, vouched in the last of those Petitions.

We beseech your Majesty to consider in what State you are, how easie and fair a way you have to happinesse, honour, greatness, plenty, and security; if you will joyn with the *Parliament*, and your faithfull Subjects in defence of the Religion, and publique good of the Kingdom: This is all we expect from you, and for this we shall return to you, our lives, fortunes, and uttermost endeavours to support your Majesty, your just Sovereignty and power over us: but it is not words that can secure us in these our

and sorrowfully remember what gracious Messages we had from you this Summer, when with your privitie, the bringing up the Army was in agitation; we cannot but with the like affections recall to our minds how not two dayes before, you gave directions for the above mentioned accusation, and your own coming to the *Commons* House, that House received from your Majestie a gracious Message, that you would alwayes have care of their Privildges, as of your own Prerogative of the safety of their persons, as of your own children: That which we expect, which will give us assurance, that you have no thought, but of peace and iustice to your People, must be some reall effect of your goodnesse to them in granting those things, which the present necessity of the Kingdom, do inforce us to desire: And in the first place, that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to put from you, those wicked and mischievous Counsellors, which have caused all these dangers and distractions, and to continue your own Residence, and the Princes neer *London*, and the *Parliament*, which we hope will be a happy beginning of contentment, and confidence betwixt your Majesty, and your people, and be followed with many succeeding blessings of Honor and Greatnesse to your Majesty, and of securitie and prosperitie to them.

The Additionall Reasons.

THe Lords and Commons have commanded us to present unto your Majestie this further Addition to their former Declaration.

That your Majesties return, and continuance neer the *Parliament*, is a matter in their apprehension of so great necessity and importance towards the preservation of your Royal Person and your Kingdoms, that they cannot think they have discharged their duties in the single expression of their desire, unlesse they adde some further Reasons to back it with.

I. Your Majesties absence will cause men to believe, that it is out of designe to discourage the Undertakers, and hinder the other Provisions for raising money for defence of Ireland.

I. I. It will very much hearten the Rebels there, and disaffected persons in this Kingdom, as being an evidence, and effect of the jealousie and division betwixt your Majesty, and your people.

III. That it will much weaken and withdraw the affection of the Subject from your Majesty, without which a Prince is deprived of his chiefe strength and lustre, and left naked to the greatest dangers and miseries, that can be imagined.

IIII. That it will invite and encourage the Enemies of our Religion, and the State, in forraign Parts, to the attempting, and acting of their evil designs and intentions towards us.

V. That

V. That it causeth a great interruption in the proceedings of Parliament.
These Considerations threaten so great danger to your Majesties Person, and to all your Dominions, that as your Majesties great Counsell, they hold it necessary to represent to you, this their faithful Advice, that so whatsoever followeth, they may be excused before God and Man.

His Majesties Speech to the Committee, the 9. of March,
1641. when they presented the Declaration of both
Houses of Parliament at New-market.

I Am confident that you expect not I should give you a speedy Answer to this strange and unexpected Declaration. And I am sorry (in the distraction of this Kingdom) you should think this way of address to be more convenient, than that proposed by My Message of the 20 of January last to both Houses.

As concerning the grounds of your Fears and Jealousies, I will take time to answer particularly, and doubt not but I shall do it to the satisfaction of all the world. God, in his good time, will, I hope, discover the secrets and bottoms of all Plots and Treasons, and then I shall stand right in the eyes of all my people. In the mean time, I must tell you, That I rather expected a Vindication for the imputation laid on me in Master Pym's Speech, than that any more generall Rumours and Discourses should get credit with you.

For My fears and doubts, I did not think they should have been thought so groundlesse or triviall, while so many sedition Pamphlets and Sermons are looked upon, and so great Tumults are remembered, unpunished, uninquired into: I shall confesse my fears, and call God to witnesse, That they are greater for the true Protestant Profession, My People and Laws, than for my own Rights or Safety: though I must tell you, I conceive that none of these are free from danger.

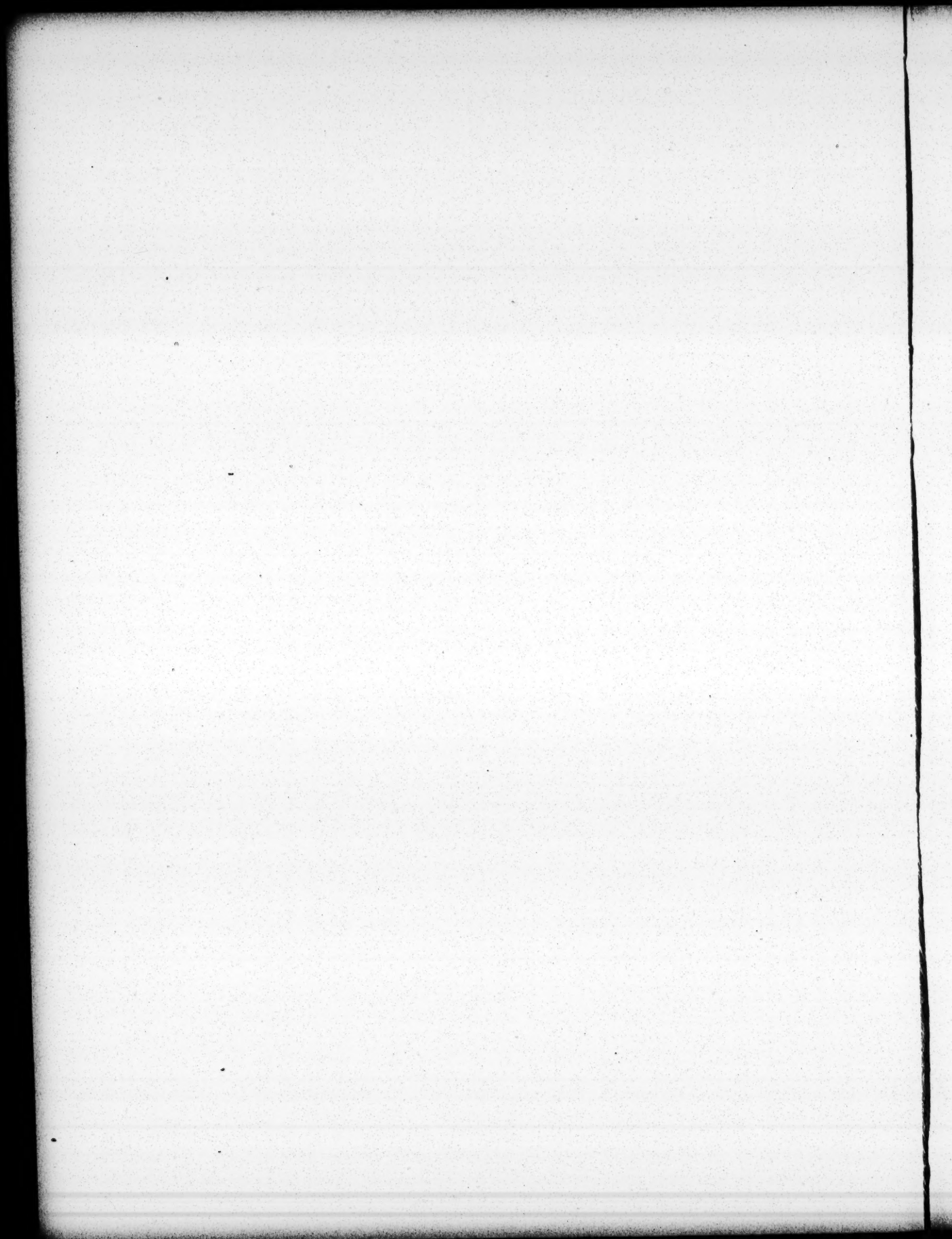
What would you have? Have I violated your Laws? Have I denied to passe any one Bill for the ease and securitie of My Subjects? I do not ask you what you have done for me.

Have any of my people been transport with fears and apprehensions? I have offered as free and generall a Pardon, as your selves can devise. All this considered, There is a Judgement from Heaven upon this Nation, if these distractions continue.

God so deal with Me and Mine, as all my Thoughts and Intentions are upright for the maintenance of the true Protestant Profession, and for the Observation and Preservation of the Laws of this Land: And I hope, God will bless and assist those Laws for My preservation.

As for the Additionall Declaration, you are to expect an Answer to it, when you shall receive the Answer to the Declaration it self.

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